

AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE
Approved Minutes of December 1, 2015 meeting

Members present: Al Cyr, Stacy Stearns, Terry Wollen, Bryan Kielbania Ed. Hall, Susan Mitchell, Nancy Rawn, Vicky Wetherell, Jennifer Kaufman (staff),

Meeting was called to order at 7:35.

Vicky was appointed acting secretary.

Minutes of the November 3 meeting and the November 10 special (regional) meeting were approved

Old Business

Walktober The committee again reviewed the tour of Twin Pond Farm and Cloverleigh Farm on October 18.

Regional Agriculture Commission/Committee Review The committee discussed two projects proposed at the regional meeting on November 10. The committee agreed to support an NRCS soil health workshop in March or April, probably cosponsored by the regional group. Jennifer will investigate possible AGvocate sponsorship and possible coordination with the Town's spring gardening workshops. The second proposal was an expansion of Coventry's Farm Day Harvest Festival to a regional event. The committee decided that this was a low priority since there were already many committee projects being planned.

Collaborating with the Economic Development Commission The committee discussed a possible joint meeting with the Commission and farm visitations in 2016 sponsored by the Agriculture Committee and also visitations sponsored by the Commission.

New Business

Outreach Initiatives The committee discussed several projects: farmer photos for a slide show in the Community Center in the spring, poster/banner showing farms listed in the Mansfield Grown brochure (to use at various venues), update to the brochure's farm list.

Leases Tabled until the January meeting.

Future Agendas

Zoning (TBA)

Permanently Preserving Town-owned Land Tabled until Jennifer has information from the Ct. Land Conservation Council.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55.